

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SS-15 NSC-05 CIAE-00 PM-03 INR-07 L-02

ACDA-05 NSAE-00 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 USIA-06 TRSE-00

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FM USMISSION USBERLIN

TO AMEMBASSY BONN

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 0673

AMEMBASSY BERLIN UNN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

USMISSION NATO

AMEMBASSY PARIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L USBERLIN 556

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PINT, WB, GW, GE, UR

SUBJECT: APRIL 25 RECEPTION AT US MILITARY

LIAISON MISSION

REF: (A) STATE 24912; (B) BONN 1349

1. CHIEF, US MILITARY LIAISON MISSION (USMLM), INFORMS US THAT ANNUAL USMLM RECEPTION FOR SOVIETS ON APRIL 25 IS EXPECTED TO TAKE PLACE ALONG SAME LINES AS IN PREVIOUS YEARS. TRADITIONAL DUAL-PURPOSE RECEPTION IS TO CELEBRATE 28TH BIRTHDAY OF MLM AS WELL AS ANNIVERSARY OF MEETING OF US AND SOVIET ARMIES ON THE ELBE. (SECOND PURPOSE WAS DEvised YEARS AGO IN ORDER TO PROVIDE SOVIETS WITH REASON TO HELP CELEBRATE MLM BIRTHDAY.)

2. USMLM HAS ISSUED 40 INVITATIONS TO SOVIETS, AS COMPARED WITH 62 LAST YEAR (WHEN 20 SOVIETS ATTENDED). LTGEN GRINKEVICH, CHIEF OF STAFF OF SOVIET FORCES IN
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GERMANY, IS HIGHEST INVITED SOVIET GUEST. HE IS

PERMITTED TO DESIGNATE AN ADDITIONAL 20 SOVIET OFFICERS BEYOND THOSE INVITED BY NAME. SOVIET CINC IVANOVSKI HAS NOT BEEN INVITED. LAST YEAR HE WAS INVITED BUT DID NOT COME. RANKING US OFFICER IS LIKELY TO BE MAJGEN KRAFT, USAREUR CHIEF OF STAFF. USCOB AND BERLIN BRIGADE COMMANDER MAY ALSO ATTEND AS THEY HAVE IN SOME PAST YEARS.

3. WE DISCOUNT POSSIBILITY THAT SOVIETS MIGHT UNILATERALLY WISH TO TURN THIS ROUTINE AFFAIR INTO SPECIAL OCCASION IN KEEPING WITH THEIR EMPHASIS ON VICTORY OVER NAZISM. MOST THEY COULD DO, IN OUR VIEW, WOULD BE TO USE 20 OPEN INVITATIONS TO PRODUCE HIGH-LEVEL SOVIET ATTENDANCE, WHICH MIGHT THEN BE REPORTED IN EASTERN PRESS. WITHOUT COMMENSURATE US ATTENDANCE THIS WOULD APPEAR UNLIKELY.

4. USCOB CONCURS. GEORGE

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